

To whom it may concern:

At one point in time, the International community sought for Morse Code proficiency to be required. They had ample reason to do so, with belief, culture, and technology being as it was. However, today, much advancement has been made in the many modes of communication. There are many modes that offer similar advantages to Morse Code, though they may have the need for a simple microprocessor to be integrated or otherwise tied in with the radio. Given this, I would put forth the claim that Morse Code is just another mode, while it should not be discouraged, and the bands in band-segments in band-plans should not be removed, the requirement for proficiency in order to use Amateur Radio frequencies below 30Mhz should be removed.

There are many Electrical Engineers who are unable, for reasons involving physiology (not covered under what may be considered a disability), that cannot pass a Morse Code exam, even with months or years of practice. Yet, these same individuals are, or would make, excellent radio operators, both in technical and communication skill sets.

I am not for removing the effectiveness of the Technician class license, nor the incentive licensing system. Based on the reasoning behind the system and in the need to be more progressive in regards to the Morse Code requirements (Element 1) as stands, I would recommend that Technician, Tech Plus, Tech w/ Morse Code, and Novice class licensees do NOT gain effective General class licenses by virtue of Morse Code being removed. Nor do I recommend the removal of the Technician class license. I would recommend the following:

Technician class licensees be granted segments of all Amateur Radio bands below 30 MHz by

a) Granting "slices" (or sub-bands if you will) in the phone bands that do not exceed one third of the total band-slice allocated in the band-plans to such emissions, in each band, and not in the band-slices exclusive to Extra class licensees.

b) Granting "slices" in the weak signal slice under a similarly restricted fashion.

General class license requirements should be modified to remove Morse Code proficiency requirements with privileges remain as they currently are stated.

Extra class requirements and privileges should remain in place, including the requirement for Morse Code proficiency.

Thank you for your time and efforts in being progressive and removing barriers to international communication via Amateur Radio.

Trever Adams  
AE6HR